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The Federal Diary

Ike's Job-Cutting Directive Ignored, Rep. Davis Charges

By Jerry Kluttz

FEDERAL AGENCIES were accused by Rep. James C. Davis (D-Ga.), yesterday of ignoring a 4-month-old directive by the President to abolish unnecessary jobs when they are vacated.



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Davis, Chairman of the House Manpower Utilization Subcommittee, said only one agency, the Veterans Administration, had set up a system to control the filling of vacant jobs in line with the President's order. He has directed an inquiry into what the agencies have accomplished, if anything, in response to the directive.

"This situation," he warned, "lends further support to the need for a high-level, competent staff, with iron in its spine, to check on the utilization of Government manpower."

"Without this checkrein on expansion the Congress and the taxpayers are at the mercy of what will be an ever expanding bureaucracy."

However, as pointed out here Sunday, Federal agencies are under heavy pressure from both the President and his Budget Bureau to economize.

Treasury, Interior, Defense, Agriculture and others are in the midst of drafting economy plans to cut jobs and other expenses. The goal is reported to be a saving of one or two billion dollars.

DEFENSE has drafted a top management staffing policy which it will make effective soon.

It will make the first real attempt to label high-level jobs that are to be occupied by civilians as well as military personnel. The policy will deal with jobs that are the equivalent of Grade 14 and above.

STATE has asked the House Appropriations Committee for funds to finance a staff of 21,300 employees during the 1953 fiscal year that begins on July 1.

It's seeking 1277 new jobs, including 345 at headquarters here, plus 530 Americans and 397 natives abroad.

The Committee was told that job reclassification last year had resulted in grade promotions for 228 employees here and 414 in the Foreign Service.

TRAINING: The bill by Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D-S. C.) to have the Government finance the training of promising employees at facilities both in or out of the Federal service is before the Senate with the approval of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

AIR FORCE has given an exceptional service award to Frank Gerety, meritorious service award to Joseph Kruppa, Horace H. Charles Stiller, and Eric H. Welch, and cash awards to C. E. Berube, May Bussell, Esther Carson, Mary R. Carroll, Pauline Conard, E. J. Cooke, Florence Duff, Herman Fine, Charles F. Holt, Samuel Holt, Barbara Lee, Barbara McCallum, Charlotte Newman, Rita Parks, Rosemary Shaffer, Betty Smith, Thelma Stemler, Clifford Van Dover, Alberta Vaughn, Oliver Washington, Inez Wilkes, Ann Willard, Harold Berzof, Brian Ferris, and Elbert Witten. . . . FT. BELVOIR has given outstanding work awards to Colleen Arthur, Arthur Berzof, Joseph Courtney, Ethel Davis, Samuel Hetrick, Edith Johnson, Harry Lowe, Margaret Mahon, and John Pennington.

AGRICULTURE RETIREES: Millard Bachman, Henry Bain, Ethel Betz, Anita Davis, Stephen Faith, Raymond Garver, Paul Gilmer, Martha Gordon, William Hanna, Agnes Hoffman, Bertha Johnston, Henry Jones, Guy Peterson, Mary Price, Clara Schoenbauer, Mary Shugrue, Nira Smith, Mary Stickley, and Aubrey Umholtz. . . . James H. Lettering is retiring from Naval Research Laboratory with 30 years of service. . . . Robert F. Williams has retired with 40 years of service from Commerce. . . . Earl C. Dudley of Defense's International Security Affairs is retiring with 30 years service.